



Celtic Country Drives



Glen Innes Severn, NSW Australia



...and see our town - past and present



Cameron Memorial Uniting Church.

A leisurely drive around the central area of Glen Innes gives an enduring appreciation of the heart of Celtic Country – the past, lovingly preserved, and current attractions. The tour is facilitated by Tourist Drive signs.

The tour begins at the north roundabout, at the intersection of the New England and Gwydir Highways, and turns right at St Patrick's Catholic Church. Just follow the signs (distances approximate)...

Signs 1-2: St Patrick's Catholic Church, built in 1909, and parish school... Roseneath aged care facility **on right**... wide, tree-lined street.

2-3: Centennial Parklands, site of the Australian Standing Stones and venue for the annual Australian Celtic Festival... town water storage/treatment plant... Martin's Lookout... Telstra microwave link.

3-4: Back along the highway, left into Hunter Street...

4-5: Showgrounds (first Show on this site was 1873).

6-7: Homes, old and new.

7-8: View Showgrounds through gates, several buildings are Heritage-listed.

8-9: Glen Innes High School, built first as a jail, not used as such, converted to school in 1928.

10-11: Lindsay Avenue, a winner of Tidy Towns Best Street. **Right into Cross Street...**

12-13: Garden Court, day care centre for the frail aged. **Turn left to New England Highway, continue ahead through southern roundabout...**

14-15: Right into Mackenzie Street: Mark Dawson, national/international saddler, at right, Cooramah Aboriginal Cultural Centre, at left. **Note huge boulders, you're heading directly into Grey Street.**

15: Grey Street, towards CBD: View TAFE and adjoining Learning Centre (accessing University of New England) **on right**... Glen Industries... Glen Innes and District Services Club **on left**.

Along Grey Street: More than 30 Heritage-listed buildings.

At Grey Street's northern end, make U-turn at Sign 16 opposite Royal Hotel, built c1860, believed to be the town's oldest existing licensed hotel.

17: After completing the Grey Street loop, turn right at the southern roundabout with clock...

17-18: King George V Oval

... Gasworks... Rocky Ponds Creek, skirt parklands. **Proceed ahead, then turn right into Lambeth Street...**

Option: Divert left to Lang Street, straight ahead, crossing bridge to tree-shaded Glen Innes Regional Saleyards (major stock selling centre with multi-million dollar turnover); returning turn left from Lang Street to Dumaresq Street for Glen Innes Racecourse.

Lambeth Street...

18-19: Historic railway station, Railway Tavern... wool store... skating rink.

20: Proceed along Lambeth Street, right into Taylor Street...

21-22: Glenwood Gardens aged care facility **on left**... **right**, Glen Innes Hospital.

22-23: Follow signs: Heated swimming pool... tennis courts... Land of the Beardies History House, one of Australia's finest folk museums... **Across intersection**, town's magnificent parklands **at left**, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, built 1868, **on right**.

23-24: Anglican vicarage **at right**.

24-25: Beautiful old homes built 1900-1930... Cameron Memorial Uniting Church built 1870, manse, **opposite**.

25-26: Turn left... three-green Bowling Club... CWA rest home... Scout Hall... parklands.

Option: Divert left to West Avenue to view attractive homes such as Mackenzie House, New England Club, close-up of parks, Anzac Park memorial gates.

26: Over bridge, turn left.

26-27: Parklands... children's playground... Lions Park.

27-28: Hollie Homes, **at left**, in building which in World War 11 produced Bulldog boots for the Army...

28-29: Older homes...

29-30: Right into Taylor Street: Wilson Park sporting area **at left**.

30: Turn right to highway: Public School, originally the Presbyterian Church... **at right**, Masonic Hall,

left, St Patrick's Catholic Church complex.

31-32: Turn right on roundabout,

pass Roxy Gallery, Police Station, amid trees historic police buildings, sheriff's cottage... Post Office... **Left into Grey Street CBD** –

take a leisurely walk through history, brochure available at the Visitor Information Centre.

33: Turn left at CBD central roundabout into Bourke Street, note **at right** restored Mackenzie building, built 1885, now supermarket, and further along, former flourmill, built 1882, now Eastmon Business Centre.

34: NSW Rural Fire Service in former Severn Shire Council offices, built 1910... Fire Station... **Turn left to New England Highway**... Tudor House B and B... Chapel Theatre... **left to your starting point:** Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre.



Legend

	Parking		Police Station
	Toilets		Town Hall/Council
	Community Centre		Tourist Centre
	Court House		Picnic Area
	Post Office		Church



Immaculately maintained parklands.



Land of the Beardies History House.



Australian Standing Stones.



Lily Jayne...boutique shopping in CBD.



Glen Innes Town Hall.



Fun in heated pool.



Celtic Country Drives

Journeying to romantic past

TOUR DRIVE 11 is a journey into Australia's romantic past... former tin mining boom towns, historic, tranquil villages, pioneered pastoral lands - and the opportunity to experience wild country with stunning rock formations. You'll find fishing and fossicking areas, original arts and crafts, real country cooking and warm hospitality.

It's a 140km loop which you begin in Glen Innes, heart of Celtic Country, at the Visitor Information Centre. There are 23km of unsealed, but trafficable, road.

Highlights of the drive include (distances approximate):

From the Visitor Information Centre, drive north through roundabout, turn left after traffic lights to Gwydir Highway, cross railway line, turn right onto Emmaville Road at Emmaville-Airport sign...

Option: Go east to Bullock Mountain Road 11-12km, for horse trekking, accommodation, camping, fossicking, to: Boolabinda: Cabin, caravan and bunkhouse accommodation, camping, fossicking.

Bullock Mountain Homestead: Home of Pub Crawls on Horseback, two, three or five-day horse treks, self-contained caravans, bunkhouse accommodation, fossicking.

Three Waters Au Naturel Rural Retreat: Caracabin, camping sites, horse riding, barbecue, swimming, picnic facilities. **Continuing on Emmaville Road, from Airport 26km to:**

EMMAVILLE (pop. 308): An 1880s tin mining boom town, then known as Vegetable Creek, where nearly 4000 tonnes of tin were mined and 2600 European and Chinese

miners were employed.

- Historic buildings like **Club and Tattersalls Hotels** (both serving counter lunches/dinners); Vegetable Creek Hospital, now a modern multi-purpose facility; birthplace of St John's Ambulance; where Australia's first medical benefits fund was launched - with the district noted for a legendary black panther.

- **Emmaville Mining Museum** housed in historic Foley's general store, bottle and mineral collections, rare photographs, newspaper clippings, replicas of miner's hut and blacksmith's shop. Open Friday, weekends, Monday, Tuesday, 10am-4pm, gold coin donation.

- Teas and lunches at **Little Tarts and Tea** in former convent, O'Donnell Street, lunches, Devonshire teas, open Friday, weekends, Monday, 10am-5pm summer, 10am-4pm winter, mid-week by appointment.

Option, divert 23km west to: 'Jimargie': Bush retreat, self-contained units, bunkhouse, caravan, camping, bushwalking, Murray cod sport fishing.

For the more adventurous, proceed north on largely unsealed roads from Emmaville to Tent Hill (6km), Torrington (further 20km) and Torrington State Conservation Area (further 8km), but since no facilities available take own refreshments:

Tent Hill: Relics of mining and Ottery Mine (further 2km), made safe for inspection, where tin and arsenous oxide were mined; site of former tin smelter.

Torrington: Caravan park, bushwalking, fossicking (topaz, beryl, quartz crystals); view mining sites: Curnows, Dutchman, Scrubby

Gully, Highland Home, Fielders Hill, Blather Arm (picnic area), Five Head Stamper, Cornish Buddle.

Torrington State Conservation Area: More than 30,000ha of wild country, Mystery Rockface (picnic/toilet facilities on walk), Thunderbolt's Lookout, streams, waterfalls, rare plants, fossicking in designated areas.

From Emmaville, drive 28km east to: DEEPWATER (pop. 276), wool, fat lambs, beef cattle, honey, grapes, olives, noted for civic pride. Historic buildings including Deepwater Inn, School of Arts, Courthouse/Police Station, Railway Station, Post Office.

- Café Blue Belle and Crafts for arts, crafts, home cooking, plant nursery, tourist information

- Factory, Autobaler Pty Ltd, produced balers for recycling paper and other waste materials at Sydney Olympics and distributes them nationally.

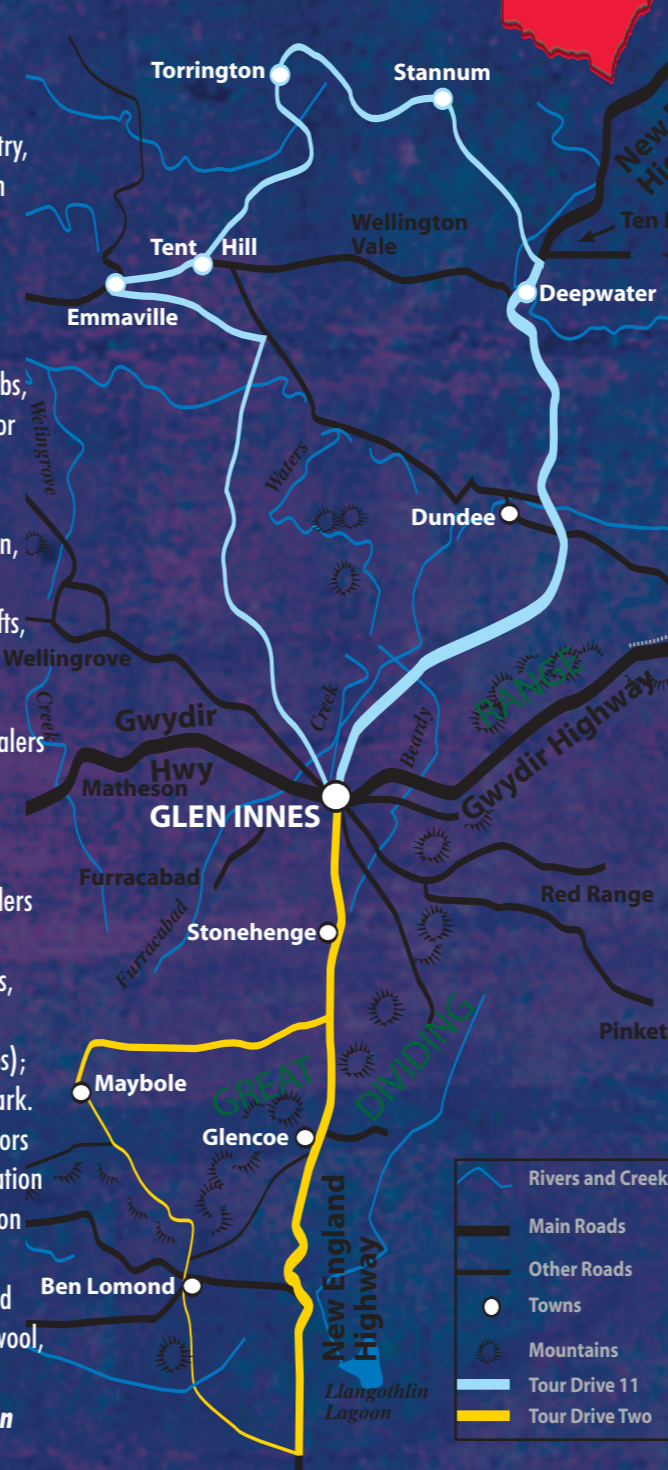
- Wellington Vale Wines, 10km west, orders phone (02) 6734 5226.
- District fossicking (beryl, quartz crystals, topaz, sapphires), fishing (Murray cod, yellowbelly, safaris to station properties); 4WD through Capoompeta National Park.

- Nine-hole sand green golf course, visitors welcome, honesty box for fees, information secretary Deirdri Cuninghame-Robertson phone (02) 6734 5226.

- Deepwater Highland Woolshed planned showcasing regional products such as wool, wine, olives, as well as history.

Complete the 40km loop back to Glen Innes via Dundee.

Glen Innes Severn, NSW Australia



And this scenic tour to an historic mountain village

Autumn gold, strange rock formations, panoramic views, fishing, history in a mountain village - they're all part of **TOUR DRIVE TWO.**

You have two options:
• A 65km round trip all on a sealed road from Glen Innes to Ben Lomond village and return to Glen Innes.

- Or extend from Ben Lomond another 44km, with 12km on a gravel, but trafficable road, through picturesque Maybole and Grahams Valley back to Glen Innes.

For Glen Innes-Ben Lomond-Glen Innes:

Begin at the Glen Innes Visitor Information Centre, head south on New England Highway (distances approximate). First 13km:

Cool Climate Garden Centre...Super Strawberry, for refreshments...

Rhonda's Gallery works of talented local artist on display...

Majestic poplars at **Stonehenge**, turning to gold in autumn, note the **Celtic Country** welcoming sign, built of stone pillars... picnic facilities at **Stonehenge Recreation Reserve...Balancing Rock**, poised incredibly on a 300mm point (on private property, view from road)...

Sharron Park farmstay and B and B: Accommodation, farm tours; tourist drivers welcome to call in for refreshments.

You've travelled 18km:

Wright Robertson Winery, Cellar Door, cool climate wines, wine tastings, winery tours, open weekdays, except Thursdays, 9am-4pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm... on right, **Barley Fields Lagoon and Glencoe Recreation Reserve.**

Then 2km to:

Glencoe village and Red Lion Tavern and BB, country hospitality, view distant left, historic, century-plus **Uniting Church.**

Drive up Ben Lomond Range, and 33km from Glen Innes castle sign indicating right to Ben Lomond village. Follow meandering road 6km to the village, noting Ben Lomond Hill with Telstra towers:

Ben Lomond village, at top of Great Dividing Range, lined with liquidambar, other deciduous trees, changing to gold and red in autumn; railway station built 1884, closed 1988, highest on national rail system (1363m); War Memorial Hall, built 1919, featuring photographs of 72 men and women who enlisted at Ben Lomond for two world wars; one-teacher school, educating children since 1885; Catholic (1928), Anglican (1926), Presbyterian Churches (1908) (to view churches phone Dorothy Every (02) 6733 2117); general store, had role in movie **Little Boy Lost**; Ben Lomond Mountain (1520m) on private property.

At Ben Lomond store, turn left at Ben Lomond and Guyra Roads sign, travel 13km, area noted for Llangothlin Lagoon with aquatic birdlife, turn left at Glen Innes sign to New England Highway, then further 46km to Glen Innes.

Option for Llangothlin Lagoon: Take Tubamarra turnoff, then Bagot Road.

For Ben Lomond to Glen Innes via Maybole and Grahams Valley:

From Ben Lomond village turn right onto Maybole Road, 7km at end of the bitumen to:

Silent Grove award-winning farmstay: Homestead, self-contained accommodation or camping, bushwalking, fishing on 1313 acre working sheep and cattle property; tourist drivers welcome to call in. **You have 12km of meandering gravel road:**

Panoramic view of Moredun Valley on left... in distance on left 1503m Mt Rummy... views of Grahams Valley on right... Maybole Hill... close-up of Grahams Valley as scenic drive progresses.

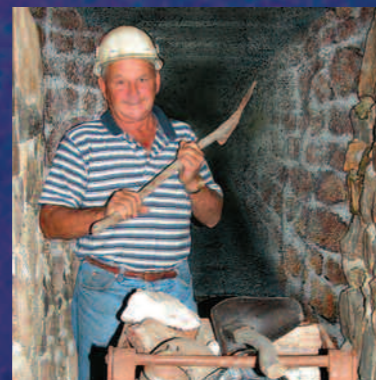
You've come 18km from Ben Lomond, make steep descent to:

Maybole and then Grahams Valley Creeks, part of the Murray-Darling system, deer often sighted in the area.

Now, 25km from Ben Lomond, left to Grahams Valley Road, further 5km and left to highway for final 14km to Glen Innes.



Our villages...all about Country.



Replica mine, Emmaville Mining Museum.



Fossicking - great family fun.



Deepwater - noted for fine wool, beef.



Tempting fruits from the Strawberry Patch.



Silent Grove farmstay.